

Application No.: 09/781,125
Amendment Dated January 9, 2004
Response to Office Action Date

Attorney Docket No.: F069

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 2-25, 28, 30-34 are in the application. Claims 1, 26, 27, and 29 are cancelled. Claims 31-34 are added.

Applicants thank the Examiner for courtesies rendered in the December 30, 2003 telephone interview. Present at the Interview were Examiner Bernard E. Souw, Examiner John R. Lee, and applicants' representative, Michael O. Scheinberg. No exhibits were shown and no demonstrations were conducted. Claims 1, 2, 3 and 20 were discussed. Agreement was reached.

The double patenting rejection was discussed and applicant's representative agreed to file a terminal disclaimer, which is attached. The Stengl et al. and Jones et al. references were discussed. Applicant's representative agreed to cancel claim 1 and rewrite claims 2 and 3 into independent form to clarify that all claims recite multiple ion guns. Applicants also agreed to amend claim 17 to recite multiple ion guns to more clearly differentiate over Jones. It is applicant understanding that it was agreed that these amendments would bring the application into condition for allowance.

Accordingly claim 1 is cancelled and all claims that were dependent on claim 1 are rewritten to be dependent on claims 2 or 3. New claims 31, 32, 33, 34 which depend on claim 3, correspond to claims 9, 17, 18, and 28 respectively, which were amended to depend on claim 2.

Applicants submit that the claims are patentable over and respectfully requests the application be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 

Michael O. Scheinberg
Patent Reg. No.: 36,919
PO Box 164140
Austin, TX 78716-4140
Phone (512) 328-9510
Facsimile (512) 306-1963